

Explanation: We've been abroad for a month, and just got home. Hence this slow response.

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

May 24, 1983

Dear Nancy,

The Peregrine-Smith reprint of Dutton's TERTIARY HISTORY OF THE GRAND CANYON DISTRICT is faithful and beautiful and expensive. I can show you a copy when you come in July. As of now, it looks as if July 2 or 3 would be O.K., but keep in touch so that we don't miss connections. Drop the books off early if you want to, or bring them with you. I sign my name pretty fast.

I should tell you, sotto voce, that a couple of book collectors here have indicated an impulse to work on a Stegner bibliography. I don't know how serious they are--they seem to me more interested in acquiring than ~~of~~ the scholarly rigor required for a complete bibliography--but they may well be serious. Maybe you'll want to talk to them while you're here.

Nobody has my papers, but they will probably go to the University of Utah (don't broadcast this). Utah has been good to me, and consistently supportive, and it's where I came from, and its library could use a little strenghtening. And any scholar who has to go to Salt Lake to study Stegner will get a bonus by being lured into good country.

No idea where you can find FIRE AND ICE, alas.

As for getting Ansel's signature, I think that can be arranged, though he's getting pretty old to be burst in upon. If you want to send the book to me, I can get his signature for you next time he's up here or I'm down there.

See you in July.

Wally

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

March 11/83

Dear Nancy -

Just as well you aren't coming to California. Half the state has the flu. I've been in bed for a week and still can't go out to my unheated study to use the typewriter.

July sounds OK, though I can't ever be sure where we'll be several months from now. If we're here, and I have no reason to believe we won't be, we'll be happy to see you.

And I'm delighted to hear that libraries are booming. Here, Proposition 13 is starving them to death.

Best
Wallace

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

July 30, 1983

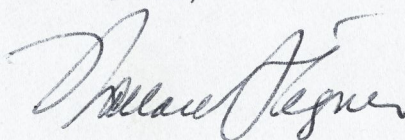
Dear Nancy:

Last Wednesday we had dinner with Ansel, who signed your IMAGES book. Yesterday I went to the P.O. to mail it and found that \$400 was the limit on ~~insurance~~ that the P.O. would allow. So I finally sent it United Parcel, which would insure it for \$500. I hope this creates no problem. I have insurance receipts etc, so let me know if all is not well.

I wish you luck with your bibliography. On Tuesday Manry Dunbar, who with the "Book Lady" Diane Peterson had made noises about a similiar projec , is coming over for a signature, and I'll try to find out if he is really serious. If he is, I'll suggest that he write to you. As a bone, I feel that I should be quarreled over. In any case, there are many more clues that I can give you besides those hasty ones you just returned. To anybody but a bibliophile they would be irrelevant, but they exist, and so I appose must be included in any complete bibliography. The best time for me to add them is after you have compiled some sort of skeleton outline. I can then fit them into the chronological cracks.

Stay in out of the heat.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wallace Stegner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wallace" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Stegner".

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Aug. 12, 1983

Dear Nancy,

I did see Dunbar last week when he came over for a signature, and he says he and Diane are serious about the bibliography. But I have the strong impression that he's a more active collector than scholar--and besides, he teaches at De Anza College. As for Diane, she peddles rare books and is also a dental technician. So they're at least as hard up for time as you are, and I would bet on you in a footrace.

I doubt that going to Utah, Twin Falls, Stanford, and points west will actually turn up much that you don't already know and that I don't have. I've got a closet full of old stuff---magazines with things by me and things about me, collections, books with introductions, etc etc. Your discovery of Fiction, and of the Tanner Lectures and the Remembering volume could have been taken care of here. They're in the closet, along with a lot of other things. So when you get your two or three days, come here first. I can't offer to put you up, because I don't know how Mary will be. She had a quadrant mastectomy two months ago, and a full bilateral one yesterday, and she's going to be laid up and languid for a while. But at least I can turn you a-loose in the closet and give you a tuna sandwich at midday and a drink at five. After that you can count your items and see where else you have to go. January ought to be all right, but check in advance.

Good luck,

Wallace

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Aug. 23, 1983

Dear Nancy,

Just now I had a telephone call from Diane Peterson the Booklady. She has heard about your wanting to do a bibliography~~x~~ and wanted to know about you. I told her you had already started and were steaming ahead (Oh dear, she said), and that you wanted to do a complete, scholarly, annotated, descriptive bibliography. Oh dear again. That's what she and Maury Dunbar had in mind. But you're a librarian, she said. Maybe you're better equipped to do such a bibliography. She, she admitted, was having to learn as she went. I suggested maybe she and Dunbar might do a checklist, as being simpler. She said there already were checklists, as in Robinson. I said they were selective and by no means up to date. So that's where we left it. "Maybe we ought to get in touch with her," she said. I agreed--but she didn't ask me for your address. I assume that she may have heard about you either from Dunbar, whom I told about you quite a while ago, or from Florian S. In any case, I think she feels discouraged by the competition, especially when she has two other jobs and is undertrained to be a bibliographer. My suggestion is that you go ahead and let them get in touch with you or not, as they choose. I can't be playing favorites in this, since I am a sort of object, not a subject. But you obviously are better equipped to do it, and have already made much more progress.

On Oct. 13 we have a Trust for Public Lands meeting in San Francisco at 5 PM. But if you don't mind being abandoned, I can introduce you to the closet* and leave you here working, and you can work as long and late as you please. Otherwise, I can start you out Friday morning, the 14th.

Many many thanks for the xerox of the Mademoiselle story. You are not only kind, you're kind fast.

See you.

* Will be leaving here about 3:30-4:00 PM

Wally

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Oct. 17, 1983

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Mrs. Nancy Colberg, who in real life is a librarian from the Denver area, is working on a bibliography of my works. I would greatly appreciate any courtesy that might be shown her, especially in giving her access to special collections in which I may be represented.

Sincerely,

Wallace Stegner
Wallace Stegner

Oct. 18, 1983

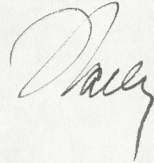
Dear Nancy,

I wrote this To Whom It May Concern missive yesterday but didn't get around to putting it in the mail. I trust you won't need it immediately anyway.

It seems empty in the study shack without you bent over your cards in the darkest corner. Come back. Though we had to ignore you, more or less, and go on with our life around you, I hope you understand that we were not indifferent to your presence. Somehow you walked into not only a household with a disabled housewife, but into a week when the obligations were more numerous than usual. We'll look forward to doing better next time.

A copy of Conversations will go on to you as soon as Shirley Cobb returns the ones she borrowed.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nancy", written in dark ink.

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Nov. 29, 1983

Dear Nancy,

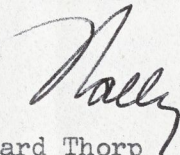
I'm delighted that you got some time off. Now I won't think of you, grim in some dim-lighted basement, poring over Library of Congress cards and keeping an eye out for the head librarian.

You have asked for April 11 to May 10. It is possible, in fact, a little more than possible, that we'll be away in May. But that needn't deter you. John Daniel, whom you met, and perhaps his wife, whom you didn't because she is still in school in Oregon, will be living in the cottage and looking after the place. He can keep the study open for you if we aren't here, and you can paw through those shelves to your heart's content. If we are here, of course, there will be even less of a problem.

Delphian Quarterly, you mention. My Goodness Godness Agnes. I had forgotten all about the Delphian Quarterly. When I was teaching at Harvard I used to write them potboiler articles for thirty dollars apiece. The Delphian Society is some sort of do-good-and-think-high women's group, and their magazine was edited by the wife of a Princeton professor, a friend of mine.* I doubt that I have any Delphian Quarterlies around, but I can look. If no other leads turn anything up, you might inquire of the Princeton library, which may well have the whole series. But I hope you never find them.

We had a pleasant Thanksgiving in Santa Cruz, and hope (if Mary is up to traveling) to spend Christmas in Santa Fe. After that we'll be at home until (if) we leave for Israel and the Sinai Desert in late April or early May. I hope all gets straightened out with Sheri, and that she comes back from (where? Tours? Vienna? Oxford?) full of charity and forgiveness for her surly parents.

Best,



* The editor's name was Margaret Thorp and her husband was Willard Thorp of the Princeton English Department. Both may now be dead, for all of that business was forty years or more ago.

Dec. 31, 1983

Dear Nancy,

Peace, perturbed spirit. I have dipped into the back corners of my files and discovered a whole folder of Delphian Quarterly articles--perhaps all of them. I find that I have things called "The Cooperatives and the Peace," "The Naturalization of an Idea," "Diagnosis and Prognosis," "Publishing in the Provinces," "The Tourist Revolution," "A Democracy Built on Quicksand," "The Colleges in Wartime," and "The Little Man with the Purchasing Power." Indeed, I have several clippings of two or three of these, so that you won't even have to copy them. Any one of them by itself would turn a vulture's stomach, and together they constitute the greatest emetic since the Book of Mormon. So save those until you come in April, and be confident that your shelves will not be bare.

And thank you extremely for the Pepperidge Farm soups. We got back from Santa Fe last night to find them waiting patiently on the kitchen counter. We are saving them for your April nourishment.

Santa Fe was very pleasant--cloudy and heavy overhead, but not cold in the way you were having it, and with all sorts of pleasant Christmas feng shui. We made a few Indian dances at San Juan and Tesuque and Taos, and the young went skiing a couple of days, and we saw some old friends and lived high on the herring.

Articles: I haven't seen the American West piece yet. And there's nothing else I can think of that's forthcoming except a review of the Steinbeck biography in tomorrow's Los Angeles Times, the introduction I did for Steinbeck's "Flight," to be published by the Yolla Bolly Press in Covelo, Ca., another introduction to a Sierra Club book called The Wilder Shore, by David Rains Wallace, and still another introduction, or re-introduction, to a new edition of a book called THIS IS DINOSAUR that I edited twenty years ago for the Sierra Club when there were threats of dams on the Green and Yampa in Dinosaur National Monument. That will be published by the Rinehart Roberts Press in Boulder, CO, but I don't know when, and I haven't yet written the introduction.

I hope that answers all your questions and lays to rest your anxieties. At least you can relax about those Delphian items.

Happy New Year, and a productive 1984. Keep us in your computer's memory.

Yours,

Wally



POST CARD



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112

MRS. WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS
CALIFORNIA 94022

Dear Nancy:

I await your orders on the matter of
letters to foundations.

About your next visit: it turns out
that because of the illness of our putative host
in the Northwest, we'll probably be here the first
week in August. Alas, no house-sit. But we'll
be happy to see you, on the old basis, and
I hope you can get through the papers.

Best,

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, sweeping 'S' or 'W' shape followed by a few smaller strokes.

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

May 22, 1984
m

Dear Nancy:

Big news in your letter--quits job, has expression of interest from Nebraska, plunges into fellow~~ship~~ seas where the breakers are highest. Well, good luck. I wrote to the NEH five minutes ago, saying you were an eager beaver, a ferret, a firecracker. I shall write to other places as you direct. I'm glad Nebraska wrote and encouraged you; they wrote me saying they were very interested indeed, so it looks as if you weren't going to have to go on working in a dark basement. They don't express interest they don't feel.

So we don't see you in August. Maybe I'll see you and Don in Lincoln on September 14-15, when I'm supposed to ~~talk~~ at some Awards Conference in the rotunda of the state capitol and be taken to a football game next day. (I can't offer Don a ticket, because if I don't use it, my hostess's husband will).

We'll let you know about possible house-sitting as our plans develop. August looks dubious because our potential host has developed a disastrous lung disease and is on oxygen 24 hours a day. October in China looks more likely. But whether we're here or gone, you're always welcome if you wipe your feet.

Sheridan was pleasant and eye-opening. Feudal baronies of cattlemen. I knew, but I never fully believed.

Take it easy. Good luck. Best to Don.

Yours,

Wally

* A couple of letters from
Sally A. M. Doubleday that may
help your jigsaw puzzle.

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

July 24, 1984

Dear Nancy -

Problems. We have to leave for the Northwest on the morning of August 6, Monday. Sunday afternoon & evening we have to celebrate my college room-mates' fiftieth wedding anniversary. That leaves Saturday Aug. 4, out of your August 4-11 bracket. Is it enough? Will it be worth your while? I'll be packing, but I'll certainly be here on Saturday, and we can question & answer between sittings.

Call me if this isn't enough. Maybe I don't know what I would do if it isn't.

Forward, any way -

Dally

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Sept. 10, 1984

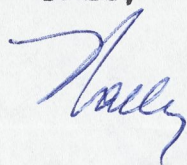
Dear Nancy,

Mary has been planning to write you for the last ten days, but meantime she has been experimenting with recipes out of that fancy cookbook you sent us (you shouldn't have, but it was very warm and friendly of you). Now, having experimented with garbanzo dips, and split pea dips, and all sorts of exotic matters, Mary was ready to write her thanks in detail, but she stepped off a doorstep wrong and is flat on her back in bed with her spine out of sync. She'll be all right, but she can't even sit up comfortably, and so I get to thank you. I do; we do. You are a nice lady.

The back situation has finally decided us against China. If Mary comes along all right, we may go to Vermont again for a couple of weeks in late September. Meantime I have Lincoln facing me on Friday. I solicit your prayers.

Best to Don.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wallace", written in a cursive style.

WALLACE STEGNER

13456 SOUTH FORK LANE

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, Colorado 80112



OCTOBER IS
STAMP COLLECTING
MONTH

99

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Dec. 1, 1984

Dear Nancy:

I'm glad you're still extant and struggling. But it sounds like a busy life. Mine hasn't been that busy, though there have been some active spots and too much traveling around.

*about
September
1984* → You ask about the Readers Digest piece. I sent it off yesterday. If, as I presume, it satisfies the Powers, it will be published as part of a series that will begin in January. There is nothing else to report except the introduction to David Rains Wallace/Morley Baer, The Wilder Shore, Sierra Club, 1984, and an introduction to Yvonne Jacobson, Passing Farms, Enduring Values, Kauffmann, 1984 (just out). I guess you saw the article on Ansel Adams in California Magazine, I guess June or July. There was also a little piece in California Living, the Sunday magazine of the San Francisco Examiner, about traveling abroad with an accident-prone wife. I can't find it at the moment, but I will. We're adding a bathroom onto my study and I'm obliged to clean out the godown and reorganize my life in the next few weeks. And the Friends of Photography, in Carmel, printed the little speech I made at Ansel's memorial service. That I do have: It's called "Miraculous Instants of Light," in Ansel Adams, 1902-1984, edited by James Alinder. Friends of Photography, Carmel, 1984. I also ran across some little essays I wrote for Sierra Club calendars--two of them. If you think those belong, I'll look up titles and place and date when I clear out that hooraw's nest I store things in.

Have fun in Washington. And have a splendid Christmas and a bibliographical New Year. Mary sends her warmest.

*Yours,
Wallace*

WALLACE STEGNER

13456 SOUTH FORK LANE

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Court
Englewood, CO 80112



Also a review in the NYTimes,
Feb. 24.

Dear Nancy:

Thanks for the advance birthday greeting. I'm not so sure I want the event advanced, but I'm grateful for the good wishes.

You sound, as usual, frantically busy and snowed in. I hope both conditions ameliorate.

as for the bibliography, neither the Readers Digest nor the Wilderness articles have yet appeared. I'll let you know when they do. There will also, sometime soon, be little pieces in California Living (the SF Examiner's Sunday magazine) and in American Heritage. I'll let you know about those, too, and save copies for you to see, or get you copies for yourself if I can.

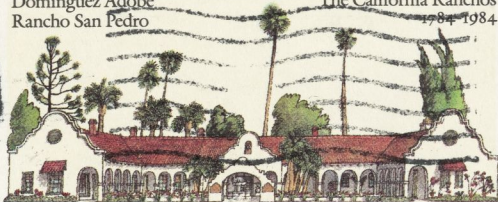
Best to you both.

Truly,



Dominguez Adobe
Rancho San Pedro

The California Ranchos
1784-1984



Historic Preservation USA I3

Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

March 23, 1985

Dear Nancy,

Alas, if you'd asked me, I could have told you that those two things in the Saturday Evening Post were both squibs, side-bar stuff, and saved you a lot of hunting.

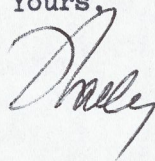
Sorry the summer stipend didn't come through. It might have made your trip to Great Britain a lot more enjoyable, though the dollar/poikund relationship ought to help, by itself. But why is France is expensive for dollar travelers? If it's hotels that make the difficulty, try our old shabby standby, the Hotel de Quai Voltaire, a place that a lot of shabby writers and muskicians have stayed over the last century or so. Right across the Seine from the Louvre, and within reach of Metro and bus lines.

Yes, I am quite sure we'll be here in the first half of June. We're going to Vermont for most of the summer, but probably not until about July 1.

Now to take a deep breath and submerge in that murky novel.

Best to Don.

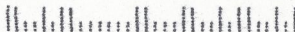
Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Wallace', written in dark ink.

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



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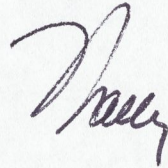
WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

April 10, 1985

Dear Nancy,

So far as I know, we'll be here at the end of May, though not for much longer than that. We expect to go to Vermont for most of the summer, or maybe all of it. But Memorial Day looks clear. We'll hope to see you.

Carry on.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Wallace', written in a cursive style.

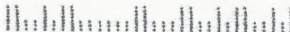
WALLACE STEGNER

13456 SOUTH FORK LANE

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112



Dear Nancy:

Welcome back from your travels. We are in the midst of ours, having come back here for the dedication of Mount Ansel Adams. On the 29th we go back to Vermont and I resume my wrestle with the angel.

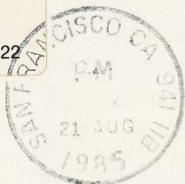
Re the English (Pryor) edition of Spectator Bird: I saw that recently in the bibliography appended to an English dictionary of authors. It has to be the large print edition, a spin-off of the G.K. Hall large print edition in this country. Nobody ever mentioned it to me.

Novel goes slowly, but goes. I have a copy of Joe Hill for you when you come.

Best to Sam too.

Wally

Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, California 94022



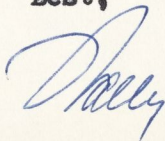
Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112

Dear Nancy:

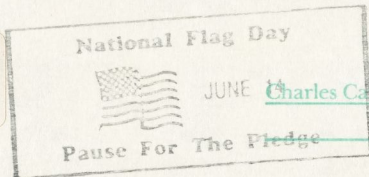
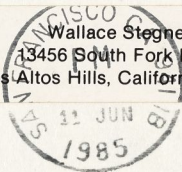
You may be in England by now, but before we leave for Vermont I had better clue you that an article called "Bernard DeVoto" which I wrote four or five years ago for the Literary History of the West will be appearing in Western American Literature in August.

Have a wonderful trip. Our best to Don. And incidentally, in case this reaches you before you go and in case you need to reach me, the Vermont address is simply Greensboro, Vermont 05841.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dally", written in a cursive style.

Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, California 94022



Charles Carroll

Patriot



U.S. Domestic Rate

**Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112**

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Nov. 11, 1985

Dear Nancy,

Thanks for Ed Fitzgerald's reminiscences. I had heard something vaguely, but we don't get the Times in the winter time (only in Vermont), and I hadn't seen it. I doubt if I single-handed brought the Literary Guild up to par with the Book of the Month Club. A few others made modest contributions.

Whenever you get around to the Bay Area, we'll probably be here. Except April, when we'll be mostly gone to look at Halley's Comet from the beaches of Fiji.

Book came along very slow last summer. Maybe moving a little now. I solicit your prayers, as usual.

There's a little stack of bibliographical items waiting on your desk. The Digest piece you have seen. Also a review of Ansel Adams' AUTOBIOGRAPHY in the San Francisco Chronicle October 6. Also "Claiming Our Cultural Heritage," The Nebraska Humanist, Vol. 8, No. 1, Spring, 1985. Also "The Power of Homely Detail," American Heritage, Aug-Sept, 1985. Also "Bernard DeVoto," Western American Literature, XX, No. 2, Aug. 1985. (This will be a chapter in the Literary History of the West, to be published by Texas Christian University Press. *American* *A*)

There are new printings of Second Growth and The Sound of Mountain Water in Bison Books. I guess you said you have those. There is also a new printing, in a new cover (the first change since the first printing in 1957), of Great American Short Stories, Laurel Books.

How's that? I'm getting pretty good at these fine details, I think. Work hard, but not too hard, and we'll expect you when you arrive. As a fellow told me last night, "If you see somebody coming through here without me, tell him I've gone on ahead."

You ask about our health. Better. Pretty good, at the moment. Hold your breath. Then let it out slow. Stay out of the snow. Our best to Don.

Yours,

Wally

WALLACE STEGNER

13456 SOUTH FORK LANE

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 South Xanthia Court
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WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
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May 29, 1986

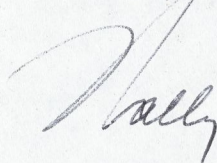
Dear Nancy:

Yesterday, just to give you a boost and shame you into activity, I finished the goddam novel. Whether I'll decide to publish it or not is still an open question, but at least I finished it. I'll give you till September to finish yours. Last week I had a call for exaccly what you're doing--a critical bibliography. It came from the translator of Angle of Repose into Italian. ^{He} finished his job, and now wants to write a long essay to "introduce" me to the Italian readers. Alas, I had to send him Forrest Robinson's book, since I had no other blbiography. (Incidentally, that Italian translation will be published by Valecchi, Florence, probably this fall.)

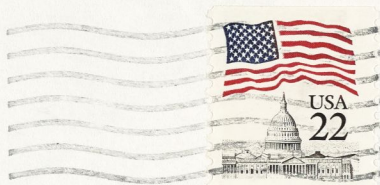
Before you arrive here on July 7, you'd probably better call John Daniel (415-949-2504). He will either tell you where a key is, or arrange to let you in. Use the main bedroom---the one with the bath attached--since right after you leave, we'll have renters coming in for two months, and they'll be using the other bedroom, which will be cleaned out for them. You get family treatment--the closets will not be cleared or anything in the robm you use. I hope that won't be too inconvenient for the week you'll be there. There will be a sheet of instructions, warnings, etc on the kitchen bulletin board, for use both by you and by the renters. On the morning of July 16, Roberto Garcia and his crew will arrive to wash windows and clean up. The renters will arrive later that same morning. The study will be unlocked and probably as messy as usual. If there is anything I think you should see, I'll leave in on "your" desk.

I hope you had fun in New Orleans. And good luck with the terminal labors.

Yours,



Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, California 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112

June 20, 1986

Dear Nancy,

We're beginning to lean toward the starting gate, and I'd better send this right now to make sure I get around to writing it.

If you don't mind, we'll ask you to use the bedroom to the left instead of the one at the end of the hall. We can't seem to get closets and dresser drawers cleared in more than one, so we'll just shut that end bedroom and bath off, for both you and the people who are coming in after you leave.

I'll post an instruction sheet on the kitchen bulletin board so that both you and the Brainerds will have answers to a few rudimentary questions. More complex ones, maybe John Daniel can answer for you. He's expecting you on July 7. I'm afraid eviction day will have to be the 15th at the outside, since at eight A.M. on the 16th Roberto our house cleaning service will arrive to mop and vacuum and wash windows, and any time after ten the Brainerds will be moving in. If you could somehow manage to wash your sheets and towels and make up the bed for the Brainerds it would relieve our minds. Roberto does no such housework, and we don't like to leave the house unready for the paying guests.

We're essentially cleaning out the refrigerator and freezer before we leave. If you find anything in either that you think you can eat, go ahead. Anything else in the kitchen, go by the rule of use and replace.

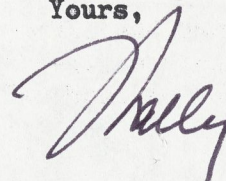
Use the pool. Make yourselves at home. And get the bibliography off your back. When in doubt about anything, call John--949-2054.

I enclose a key, which will let you come on in whether John is at home or not. It fits the back door. That is the only door that has a key. All other doors should be locked from the inside if you go away for any length of time. The study door won't lock, so that has to stay open. It might be a good idea to draw the curtains when you leave, just to keep anybody from looking in and seeing something he wants.

Our Vermont address is simply Greensboro, Vt. 05841, and our telephone is (802) 533-7010. You might want to give us a call and tell us how things go (went). And please enjoy yourselves. Our best to Don.

P.S. (When you leave, just leave the key in the dish of keys on the kitchen counter. If John isn't going to be around on the morning of the 16th, it might be a good idea to leave the back door open for Roberto.

Yours,



Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, California 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 South Xanthia Court
Englewood, CO 80112

Route 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, Vermont 05841
Sept. 18, 1986

Dear Nancy,

I'm very pleased to hear that Dick Etulain did his duty and that the Nebraska Press publication of your bibliography looks virtually certain. Do your revisions like a good girl and have fun in the mountains and then relax and let the pressmen and editors take it over.

We just got back from New York, where there seems to be considerable enthusiasm for the new novel. At the moment we are still debating among publishers. Pretty clearly it will not be Doubleday, though they want it pretty badly. Pretty clearly, too, the title is still to be applied, so don't add anything to your bibliography yet.

The lectures go slowly, probably because I'm trying to say everything within the context of three fifty-minute spiels. They have to be done in the next month, and so I assume they will be.

Thank you for your offer of sanctuary on our way home. It might well be that we'll take you up. The weather, more than anything else, will be the decider. We'll be leaving Ann Arbor on October 31, and if there isn't too much snow and storm we'll probably feel that we should hike straight through to the problems that sit in California waiting for solution. But if there is a lot of snow in the mountains and I-80 looks dubious, we'll probably drop south, through Denver, and go around home by way of Santa Fe and old 66. We shall let you know in plenty of time so you can shoo your children out of the spare bed or make up a pallet on the floor.

You won't believe what it's doing here at this moment. Snowing. Maybe we'll never get out of here at all.

Pray for us.

Wally

Route 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, Vermont 05841
Sept. 20, 1986

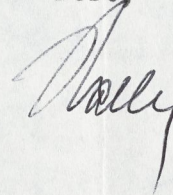
Dear Nancy,

Please send Dick Etulain two ounces of hemlock root with full instructions for use. I think that my writing an introduction to your bibliography is a terrible idea, something like calling me in post mortem to consult on the design of my tombstone.

So far as I can see, the purpose of an introduction to your bibliography of my works should be double: 1) to certify that in the opinion of sober scholars it is a worthy project, and 2) to certify, in the opinion of the same deacons of scholarship, that it is well and thoroughly done. I could testify to the latter, only a sober scholar could testify to the former. I don't know where you're going to find one who will so testify, but for starters you might try Jackson Benson, who has written a book or two on Hemingway and other competitors with Stegner for public notice, and has also written a big life of Steinbeck, and is now engaged in writing a biography of me. He's in a bind--he'll have to testify, or else give up this Stegner biography and resolve to lead a better life. He can be reached at the Department of English, University of California Irvine.

Now be a good girl and do as you're told. "For him who list to hunt, I know where is an hynde/ But as for me, alas, I may no more."

Best



W. Stegner
Route 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, Vermont 05841

Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112



USA
22



New England Neptune



Route 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, VT 05841
Sept. 25, 1986

Dear Nancy,

A friend who summers up here but works the rest of the year in the Library of Congress just sent me this print-out of everything she could find of mine in the LC. Some things, evidently, are not on the computer but are on the shelves, and maybe vice versa.

In view of your disappointed feeling that the LC had not lived up to its duties, I send this on to you for whatever it's worth. Perhaps in the revisions you are still to make it will have some usefulness.

Indian Summer, finally, but leaves early, fleeting, and not superlative, thanks maybe to early freezes, or late freezes, in June, thanks maybe to acid rain, thanks maybe to some cause unknown, such as a very rainy summer. Anyway, we're about ready to close it up, but we have four more weeks to go. Pray us up continuing mellow weather.

Best,

Dally

PS--Did I wr^{ite}te you that the novel is going to Random House? Title still unsettled. There will also be, probably not until 1988, a little book made from the Michigan lectures--publisher and pub date as well as title unknown. And I'll be doing an introduction for the Letters of Ansel Adams as soon as I get home. These last items may or may not matter to your bibliography, but I thought you should be aware of them.

13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
Nov. 19, 1986

Dear Nancy and Don,

We have been home for two weeks, and ~~xi~~ I'm ashamed not to have written before this to thank you for that majestic sundial. Now we can count no hours but the sunny ones--as soon as I clear the desk a little more and get around to finding some sort of pedestal on which to mount it. It was very thoughtful of you to have it sent, and we do thank you.

When I called you from--where was it? North Platte? Maybe as far back as Ames--I knew what we were heading into, after four months away. I was absolutely right; it's been bedlam ever since we arrived, and we were right in not trying to stop off in Denver to see you, even though that would have been pleasant and instructive. As a matter of fact, we were in such a tizzy that we drove from Salt Lake to here in one flight--835 miles. I haven't driven that far in a day since K was 40.

Now it's beginning to ease off. I have to talk at San Jose State tomorrow night, and I still have some revising of the Michigan lectures to do, and the introduction to Ansel Adams' letters is coming up, and there is some busy-work about finding a title for the novel, and writing things to accompany the Italian publication of Angle of Repose, etc etc, but those seem manageable now. I think I will retire in 1987 and see how it feels.

Mary stood the trip well--she will never convince me again that she has back problems, after that drive from Salt Lake. Or maybe it was that Chrysler, which is an unconscionably comfortable car. In any case, we're here, we're seeing light at the end of the tunnel, and we're very pleased with the sundial. How did we ever get along without one?

All the best,

Nancy

Stegner
Rt. 1 Box 1220
Greensboro, VT. 05841



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO. 80112

13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
Jan. 11, 1987

Dear Nancy,

I'm sorry indeed to hear about the difficulties with the bibliography. Of course you are not bound in the least to Nebraska, and I suspect that other places, Utah and Peregrine Smith among them, would probably be interested. The only real negative is that now the new novel and the bibliography can't appear at approximately the same time, and wash each other's hands.

Our spring is up in the air. At the moment, we are thinking of Italy for a couple of weeks at the end of March, but that is still fluid. If we're here, we can put you up. If we're not, I suppose the house and the Daniels will be here, and you can camp. I'll let you know how our plans work out.

Nothing new on the publication horizon except an essay, "The Sense of Place," published as a fine-press, limited-edition (200 copies) pamphlet by the Silver Buckle Press, described as "a working typographical museum located in the Helen C. White Library at the University of Wisconsin-Madison." This will later be published as part of a larger study-publication by the Wisconsin Humanities Committee. At the moment I am finishing an extended review of James Welch's Fools Crow and Will Weaver's Red Earth, White Earth for the Washington Star's magazine The World and I. (I discover belatedly that this is the Moony magazine!) The only thing assured in the immediate future is an introduction to the collected letters of Ansel Adams, which I haven't yet started on. Angle of Repose will be published sometime soon in Italian by Vallecchi of Florence, but I haven't yet seen a copy and don't even know the Italian title.

Health here is reasonably good, weather is cold and too dry. I hope your problems with Nebraska either smooth themselves out or that you find a better place to talk to. Our best to Don.

Yours,

Nelly

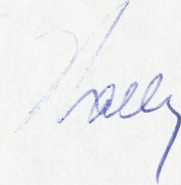
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
March 1, 1987

Dear Nancy,

Here's the pamphlet. No need to send it back till
we're back from Italy--we'll arrive herethe night of April 1.

Good luck with Nebraska. I do think that's the best place,
if they can be brought to sensible and humane dealing.

In haste,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sally", written in a cursive style.

Route 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, Vermont 05841
July 27, 1987

Dear Nancy,

You have every right to feel butchered and misused. When your advisers change the rules, after you have painstakingly followed their suggestions, you have to ask where authority lies and what it says. I suspect that there is no right way--that the experts go by trial and error like everybody else. And it doesn't look good that they then tried to hide from you the fact that their suggestions were doing you in.

However, I don't think you should give up on it. You've put too much into it to quit it now. Let it cool. Let the press and the advisers settle down. Then, if there is some agreement on what the proper forms and method ~~are~~, you can maybe pick it up and put it into a shape that--agreed on in advance--will satisfy Regier. It does seem that if Harlan~~de~~ suggested a lot of stuff that now he wants to un-suggest, it ought to be easier to take it out than it was to put it in! But I repeat, let it cool. Put it away where you can find it when you feel like finding it. And don't worry about my possible disappointment. I am disappointed only because your effort hit a snag. If you wait five years, I won't hustle you. I only want to see you get the benefit out of all your labor. As for lack of academic credentials doing you in--I dunno. I don't know libraries and librarians and bibliographers. Maybe they're that small, but I don't want to believe it.

As special information to my bibliographer, the pubdate of Crossing to Safety is September 15. Sam Vaughan called a half hour ago to say that the Kirkus review was blah, but the Publisher's Weekly was great. So I will see when I see them. Penguin has bought the floor of the paperback, and the Franklin Library is going ahead with its autographed first edition, which should appear a few days before the Random House edition. We are up here since Saturday evening, and will stay until the 29th. Then back to California for a couple of weeks, and then off again to Montana and Wyoming and (outside chance) Santa Fe, and to address the Intermountain Booksellers in Salt Lake on September 12. I had half hoped to see you and Don there, but that is probably not in the cards. Anyway, I'll have very little time, and that will be full of book signing at Sam Weller's and talk shows on Salt Lake TV stations. I hate this, but this one last time I will do it. And now I see that you need a copy of C. to S. Alas, I don't have one, not even a manuscript, and so far as I know, won't have one until well into next month.

Take heart, lady, and go to a lot of little league ball games and forget bibliography until the methods crystallize and the cold weather comes on. Our best to Don.

Yours Truly

13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
Nov. 8, 1987

Dear Nancy,

It is good to hear from you again. I hope the depression is over and you may be able to look at the whole project without swooning or bursting into flame.

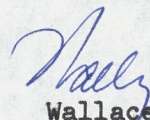
A few days ago I ran into Florian Shasky in a parking lot, and he said with concern that he hadn't heard from you for a long time, was anything wrong? I told him I thought you had been discouraged by contradictory and confusing reports from the referees Nebraska had appointed. I did not tell him I knew he was one of the referees. He seemed distressed. Has he written you?

Anyway, I don't think you should quit on this, and I am now not thinking of the fact that this is a Stegner bibliography. I am thinking of the fact that you've put about four years into it, and it ought to result in some good to you, personally and professionally. You say in your last letter that the bibliography sits exactly where it was--you haven't opened the package that Nebraska sent it in. What did they tell you then? Do it over? Revise the system? No thanks? If what they told you is unacceptable, then if I were you I would send it somewhere else. The University of Utah Press, ~~xxx~~ to mention only one small alternative, once expressed great interest in this project; and given the conflict of opinion on the proper form of bibliographies, they might be agreeable to letting you do it the way you want to. You may have been listening to too many voices, and the voices themselves may not have been consistent. But another publisher might not have any of those voices, or any will to call on them. Utah may not be any place you want to take it; there are plenty of others, including North Point, that could be queried on the basis of exactly the manuscript you now have in that package.

So much for fatherly advice. How is everything else in your life? We're going to Truckee for Thanksgiving, with the grandchildren. A good many book parties and signings. Pleasant reviews, in the main. Four printings, and I would expect that the book will hold up fairly well through the Christmas season. Penguin has bought the paperback. Nobody has bought the movie, but then I never did expect anybody to.

Let me know how things go and what you decide to do. If you want, I'll write to Regier and ask him what he thought he was doing, with his referees and hesitations about bibliographical form. But I won't accost him unless you ask me to. He's after the reprint rights to Angle of Repose, and I have some leverage on him.

Best to Don. And love,



Wallace Stegner

13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
Nov. 30, 1987

Dear Nancy,

First, your main question. Yes, I see no reason why you shouldn't try the bibliography, as it stands, on some other publisher. The worst they can say is no. You have a specific thing to offer. You can even let them know in advance exactly what you had in mind--the Pittsburgh format--and tell them (politely) take it or leave it. There's nothing sacred about Nebraska. My guess is that, since they have so many of my titles in the Bison series, they will regret letting your bibliography get away, but maybe I overestimate their sense.

Crossing to Safety. I have no final word on printings and numbers, and neither will break any records. There have been four printings, of 17,500, 2,500, 2,500, and 5,000 respectively--or had as of a month ago, when I last heard. About three weeks ago, I had a note saying that the total sales to date had been 25,319. These figures are pretty modest, as Random House measures success, and may have been kept down by their caution in printing and by their almost-steadfast refusal to advertise. The ad you saw in NYTBR was the only one, except for a smaller one in the San Francisco Chronicle. Maybe they know what they're doing, but they're not lathering their horses to get us into campground. On the other hand, they do have justification, since they tell me that sales have been brisk only on the West Coast and that 55% of re-orders come from the West Coast. We have been on the Chronicle best seller list for twelve weeks, anywhere from #4 to #11, but not at all on the NY Times list. So don't expect triumphant parades. I'll send you the more final figures after Christmas, or you could get them from Sam Vaughan at Random House, telling him what you need them for. Of the Franklin Library edition I have only one copy, and I'd prefer not to trust it to the mails until after the Christmas rush. Now I see you want the exact publication date. It was supposed to be, and officially was, September 21, but actually there were books in the bookstores very early in September.

Recent writings: Nothing except an introduction to the Letters of Ansel Adams, New York Graphic Society, to come in 1988, and a little article on Ansel to come soon in the magazine U.S. West, published in your town by a well-known public utility. Of publications during 1987, I remember these:

"Amicitia," (excerpt from Crossing to Safety), Sequoia, Centennial Issue, Vol. 31, No. 1, Dec. 1986. pp. 16-25.

"The Indian Voice," 'Review of James Welch, Fools Crow, and William Weaver, Red Earth, White Earth. The World and I, Vol. 2, No. 3, March 1987. pp.397-401.

"Vision of Light," Art and Antiques, April, 1987, pp. 101-105

"La Citta del Vivere," traduzione di E. Tosques e E. Pellegrini. Stilema, inverno 1987. Vallecchi Editore, Firenze. (A translation of the story "City of the Living")

Angolo di Riposo. Traduzione di Edward Tosques e Ernestina Pellegrini.
Vallecchi Editore, Firenze, 1987.

Crossing to Safety. Random House, New York, 1987.

"The Spoiling of the American West." Michigan Quarterly Review, Vol. 26, No. 2,
Spring, 1987/ (A version of this also in Los Angeles Times, Sunday, May 31, 1987.

"The Function of Aridity," Wilderness, Fall, 1987.

The American West as Living Space. University of Michigan Press, 1987.

"What Makes a Westerner?" American Heritage, Vol. 38, No. 8. Dec., 1987

I am working on a couple of stupid articles that I promised months ago, but until I make sure I can write the damned things, I won't even mention their names. In case you are still looking at interviews and articles-about, there have been several of those in connection with Crossing to Safety; and T.H. Watkins did an extensive profile of me as an environmentalist called "Typewritten on Both Sides," The Conservation Career of Wallace Stegner. Audubon, Sept. 1987, pp. 88-103.

Further than that, deponent sayeth not. Have a wonderful holiday season, snowshoe for exercise, and tell me after the first of the year what you decide to do. If I get any figures on C to S, I'll pass them on. Our best to Don.

Affectionately,


Wallace Stegner

May 1, 1988

Dear Nancy,

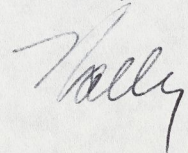
I'm glad you're reviving somewhat on the bibliography. That is simply too much work to be thrown away.

You ask about Jim Hepworth. I will tell you all I know. I met him first years ago at the University of Arizona when I was making a speech dedicating their new library. He was about to start doing a Ph.D. thesis on me--he still is working on it, I guess, and maybe he will even get it done sometime. He is an enthusiast, a man of great energy, bright, full of ideas and projects. He takes on more and bigger projects than he is likely to be able to carry out, but he carries out more than you'd think he could, at that. He is, as a publisher, intuitive and imaginative and good; his problem is that he has no capital--he operates on a shoestring that is always in danger of breaking. He makes good-looking books and he promotes them shrewdly in the places where he has entree. Whether he could help you at all with the form of your bibliography I don't know; I'm pretty sure he knows nothing about formal bibliography and cares less; that he would leave the form pretty much up to you. You would have to plan to proof-read very carefully, not because Jim is careless but because he is used to scanning content, not form--much of what he has published is poetry. Whether he could distribute a bibliography of this kind I don't know--you and Don can inquire and probe on that score. I know he could print it, and I know he would push it with enthusiasm, for he is a faithful admirer of Stegner, and he's ambitious to incorporate Stegner into the plans he has for himself and his press. He does know my work better, much better, than any other publisher you might find. And it could be that when you weigh him against some university press that might be interested--Utah let us say--you would decide he is the better bet. Check with him on his distribution system, what access he has to a sales force, ~~marketing~~ and especially how he would expect to get the book into the libraries that will surely be its principal buyers.

That won't make your decision for you, but it may give you some idea. Enthusiasm and commitment may be better than a well-known colophon. Personally I would be happy to see you go with Jim, but that's only because I know of his enthusiasm, and I like him. You'll have to make the decision on grounds more important to yourself.

Here, no news except aging skeletons and disintegrating physiologies. Mary has been having a series of ailments, the last of them an infected jaw after some root canal work. Ah, these golden years. You sound frantically busy, as usual. Don't overwork. Get in your trips. Stay in touch.

Best,



13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
May 19, 1988

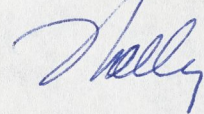
Dear Nancy,

I am sending you in the morning, by book post, a copy of the Franklin Library Crossing to Safety and a copy of the Michigan Press's The American West as Living Space. This latter was also published in hard back, but I don't have a copy.

I'm also sending you herewith a list, which I think is complete, of things published since you went over the side.

It's interesting that you and Jim Hepworth seem to be having a meeting of minds. I suspect you will be talking things over in Anaheim. I hope I get a chance to join in, if only for a moment.

In haste,



P.S.--Maybe ^{if} you could send these books back, along with the other things that you ^{have} (if you're through with them) before you go to England. I'm in a fury of reorganization and compulsive order in my study, and my soul will shrink if I don't have everything neat on the shelves. (Dreams, dreams)

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

June 2, 1988

Dear Nancy:

I expected to give you this sheet in Anaheim, but since I didn't see you, I couldn't. I have indicated on the sheet the pages on three magazine articles. The size, date, and number of printings on the two books, non capisco. You'll have to check with Random House on the one book, and on the other I wish you luck. Those Eyetalians don't respond to letters in English. Your only chance is to write the translators, Edward Tosques and Ernestina Pellegrini (who are married and live together) at Via Nicola Pisano 11, Firenze, Italia.

I heard from Jim Hepworth on the telephone yesterday. Already raising money. Good luck. And have a great trip abroad. Best to Don.

Yours,

Wally

Route 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, Vt. 05841
July 19, 1988

Dear Nancy:

I'm glad you returned safely from the fleshpots of Britain, probably with boxes of rare books under your four arms. It sounds strenuous, your life, but satisfying.

And alas, I have no answers to the questions you ask. I never have. I don't know the ~~numbers~~ of the Frankling Library edition (which sells, of course, over a period of time, so that my records show nothing but the up-to-now distribution. And anyway I don't have my records here. As for the BOMC CROSSING TO SAFETY, I don't even know whether they printed a club edition. It was an alternate selection, with a very small guarantee, and nobody can tell you except the BOMC whether they made a special edition, or distributed the Random edition, and how many. The Quality Paperback edition is only a one-line item in a letter from my agent. It meant a little money; I have never seen a copy, and have no notion how many were printed, or when. Again, nobody can tell you but Random House or the BOMC. It is true that both that Quality Paperback edition and the Viking-Penguin edition (which I have seen, and liked) are trade paperbacks, and would seem to compete with one another. My impression is that the Viking edition will be much more vigorously pushed. If you have a question, you might address it to Janet Kraybill at Viking, who is the publicity girl in charge of this book. It will be in the bookstores next month, I believe.

I agree about Michigan Press. They didn't know what they had, and did the worst they could with it. Judging from my last (and first) royalty statement, they did pretty much sell out what they printed. Now what? You tell me.

Have a good time in Santa Fe, Albuquerque, and points west. We'll be here till October 12, if you want us. After that a period on the road. After about October 25, home. Our best to Don.

Yours,



Route 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, VT 05841
Aug. 20, 1988

Dear Nancy,

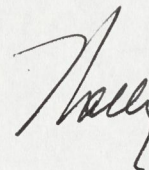
Quick answers to your questions:

There are only six stories in the Yolla Bolly book, all of them previously published. They are Two Rivers, The Blue-Winged Teal, The Volunteer, The Sweetness of the Twisted Apples, The City of the Living, and Impasse. I have written a splendid introduction, not to be missed.

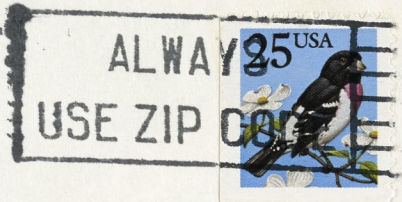
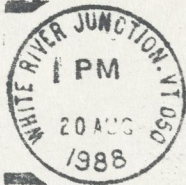
I don't know the exact publication date, but the text is already at the printer's, so that I imagine Yolla Bolly is shooting for ~~before~~-Christmas publication. As for the price, I have nothing to do with that, and am very happy I am going to get my copy free. Only bibliographers can afford things like that.

Three weeks of above-90 temperatures and above-90 humidity have finally broken, and the last two nights have been close to freezing. We'll be seeing Northern Lights any minute. We're here until October 12, with short excursions to Quebec, New York, and Dartmouth. Your Santa Fe stint sounds delightful--but then Santa Fe has a habit of being delightful. Good luck with your bibliography and your life. I hope you can keep them separate.

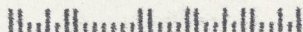
Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Yolla Bolly".

Wallace Stegner
Route 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, VT 05841



Nancy Colberg
7583 South Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112



On the Teaching of Creative Writing

Wallace Stegner

Edward Connery Lathem, *editor*

One of America's finest writers talks about the difficulties, rewards, and importance of teaching creative writing.

A half century's wisdom on teaching and learning creative writing is distilled in this brief discussion with one of America's preeminent authors. Anyone who has taught or participated in a creative writing class will find Wallace Stegner's insights invaluable. Addressing key questions, Stegner describes what it is to be a writer and the special attitude that teachers of writers need in highly charged classroom atmospheres. This concise and inspirational discourse reminds us *why* creative writing classes are important.

Wallace Stegner was founder of and for 26 years directed Stanford University's Creative Writing Program. Author of many books, he won the Pulitzer Prize for his novel *Angle of Repose* (1971) and the National Book Award for *The Spectator Bird* (1976). His latest book of fiction is *Crossing to Safety* (1987). Edward Connery Lathem is Woodward Fellow and Counselor to the President at Dartmouth College, and Dean-Emeritus of Libraries.

"The language itself is an inheritance, a shared wealth. It may be played with, stretched, forced, bent; but I, as a writer or teacher, must never assume that it is mine. It is *ours*, the living core, as well as the instrument, of the culture I derive from, resist, challenge, and—ultimately—serve. Nobody can teach anyone else to have a talent. All a teacher can do is set high goals for students—or get them to set them for themselves—and, then, try to help them reach those goals."
—from the book

72 pages. Frontis.
ISBN 0-87451-486-X.
\$7.95. January.

4 3/4 x 6 3/4"

Creative Writing.

The Best of Rilke

72 Form-True Verse Translations
with Facing Originals, Commentary

Walter Arndt, *translator*

Cyrus Hamlin, *foreword*

A distinguished poet-translator presents faithful verse translations of 72 poems in a bilingual edition with commentary and biographical material.

There are many translations of the great German neo-romantic and metaphysical poet Rainer Maria Rilke. But in the sense demanded by his astounding aesthetic intuition and linguistic subtlety, he has never been translated at all. Poet-translator Walter Arndt boldly claims to offer here the first collection of Rilke translations that reproduce the prosodic identity (meter, rhyme scheme, semantics) of the original poems. Applying the same principle of "form-true" rendering that earned him the Bollingen Prize for his translation of Pushkin's *Eugene Onegin*, Arndt has perfected English translations of Rilke's finest rhymed poems primarily from the period 1900 to 1915. The outcome of one translator's lifetime preoccupation with Rilke, these translations are so faithful yet free flowing that a reader forgets English was not the language of the poet.

Facing originals permit direct comparison between the German and English. Commentary for selected poems shows the translator at work. A compact biography records Rilke's wanderings and writings, tracing his psychological and literary development through key stages of his personal and artistic attachments. In his Foreword, Cyrus Hamlin discusses the poetics of modernity in the works of Rilke.

Walter Arndt first fell under the spell of Rilke's poetry over 50 years ago and drafted five of these selections while an undergraduate at Oxford in 1936. He is Sherman Fairchild Professor of Humanities and Professor of Russian Language and Literature, Emeritus, at Dartmouth College. His previous verse translations include Goethe's *Faust* (1976) and Pushkin's *Eugene Onegin* (1963). **Cyrus Hamlin** is Professor of German and Comparative Literature at Yale University, editor of Goethe's *Faust* (1976), and author of *The Poetics of Self-Consciousness* (1973).

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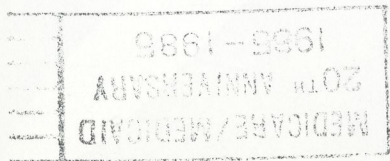
WALLACE STEGNER

13456 SOUTH FORK LANE

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112



STANFORD UNIVERSITY

STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 94305

CREATIVE WRITING CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

April 11, 1986

Dear Nancy,

Problems. When were you planning to come out here this summer? I hope early. The point is, some friends of friends want to rent the house from July 15 to September 15, and we're pretty strongly inclined to let them, having had that scare with last summer's fires. Mary will feel a lot safer with someone in the house; and though the Daniels are fine, they both work, and there are whole days and half days when nobody is on the place.

Is it possible for you to make your trip to California before July 15? It is possible that these folks would be amenable enough to your working in the study a few days, but there would be no place for you to stay, and I know that matters. It might also be possible for you to come later, after September 15, but I suspect school may interfere with that; and both John's and Mailyn's mothers will be visiting them for a few days in late September or October, and will be sleeping in our house.

You see what I am asking for. Please, Mrs. Colberg, can you come before the middle of July?

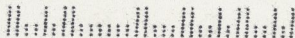
Best,

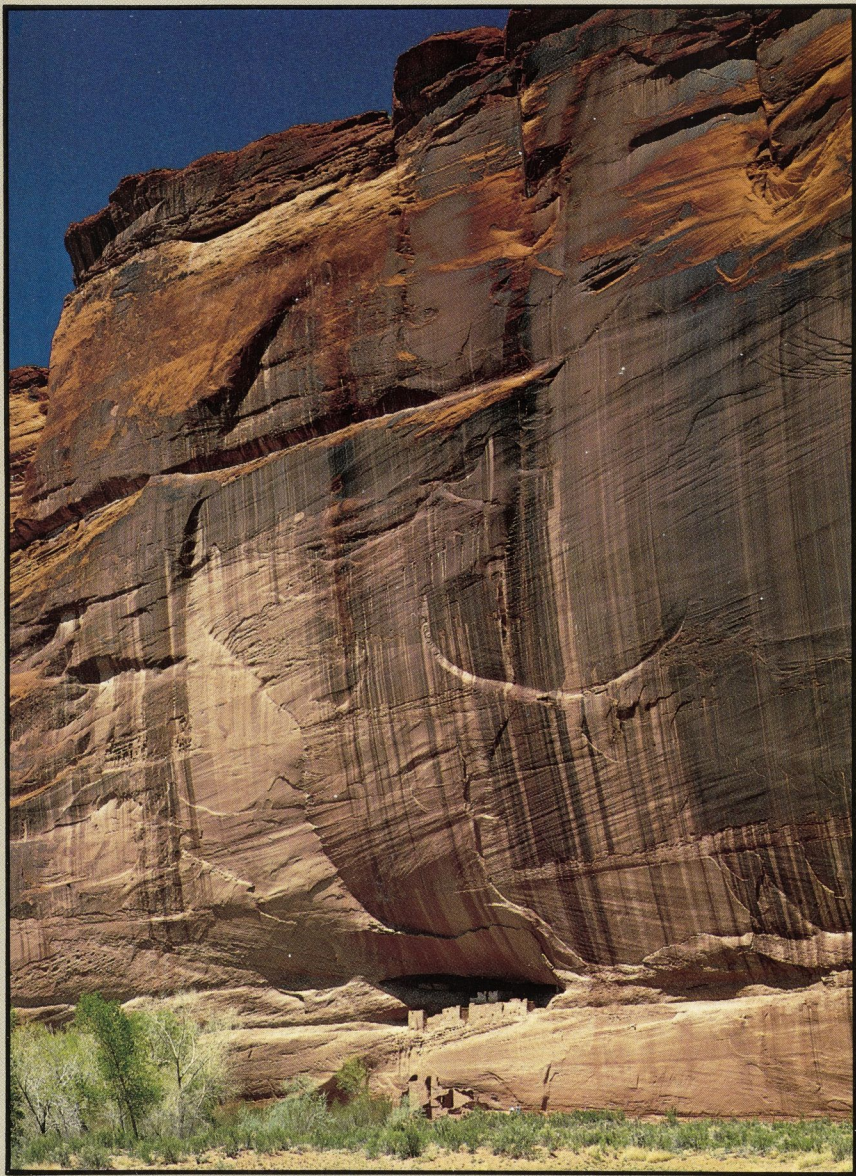
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nancy", written in dark ink.

Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, California 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 South Xanthia Court
Englewood, CO 80112





“Here geological and human history have at least a poetic similarity.”

Wallace Stegner

from

Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, California 94022



Dear Nancy:

Alas, I haven't the name of that Reno librarian. I think I gave you the letter, the only one I had from him, and it went along with the computer printouts. I have no clue. But I think that if you wrote or telephoned the Special Collections section of the University of Nevada, Reno library, you would catch him. He's the director, and he has a long tough name. He ought to be easy to identify.

Sorry to be no help. All well here. To Washington on Saturday for four days, then back home till mid-May. South Seas either cancelled or postponed, most likely postponed till June.

Best,

to

Nancy Colberg

7583 S. Xanthia Ct.

Englewood, CO 80112

White House Ruins
Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Arizona

photo by Peter Bloomer

words from *Beyond the Hundredth Meridian*
Houghton Mifflin, 1954

produced by Beautyway
Box 87
Flagstaff, AZ 86002

PB3



Dear Nancy —

Only a word to wish you happy
days at Christmas and in 1986,
and especially to hope that you
get the bibliography off your
back soon. It sounds to me as if
you were close. Just to complicate
your life, I have a little piece coming
on the Opinion page of the Los Angeles
Times (about New Year), and I'm
writing an essay on the sense of
place for the Wisconsin Humanities
Committee. Also the Cook lectures
for U. of Michigan, but those

would be given until next
November, & would be published
until some time after that.

And there's a novel, I hear.
But I hear it very faintly.

Anyway.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Our best to you & Don

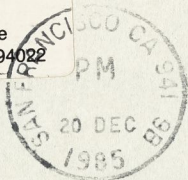
Thilly & Mary

SHOŞHA

NEW YORK

C76

Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, California 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 94305

CREATIVE WRITING CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Nov. 14, 1985

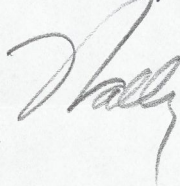
Dear Nancy:

The man to write to at Franklin Library is Darby Perry, Franklin Library, 800 Third Avenue, New York 10022. If he doesn't answer, try Ken McCormick.

And yes, the next book is going to be in a Franklin series of titles signed by their authors--if I ever get it done.

The TV program you heard about was Charles Kuralt's Sunday Morning, which spent most of a half hour on the ceremonies in Tuolumne Meadows dedicating Mt. Ansel Adams on August 19. My speech happened to get picked as a kind of thread on which to hang a photographic essay on Ansel---big wonderful shots of his photographs, interspersed with words from Stegner. At least that's what I'm told. I didn't see it either.

In haste,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Nancy', written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dec. 28, 1988

Dear Nancy,

This, in case you don't recognize it, is a Christmas card.

It is also, beyond a hope that you had a merry Christmas full of phamily phun and will have a New Year the same, to give you a list of things published in 1988, in case you haven't run across them or I haven't noted them for you before this.

Review of Anne Tyler, Breathing Lessons, Washington Post, sometime in August.

Foreword to Ansel Adams: Letters and Images, New York, New York Graphics Society, 1988.

Article on Ansel Adams in U.S. West, Jan., 1988

Article on the Uinta Wilderness in Ford Times, Jan. 1988

"The Great Falls Year," in Montana Image, edd. William Kittredge. New York, Nick Lyons Books, 1988.

"Harriet Doerr," Esquire, Dec. 1988.

"Land of Many Uses and Abuses," Los Angeles Times, Nov. 666666, 1988

Crossing to Safety, large print edition. Thorndike, Maine, Thorndike Press, 1988.

Wallace Stegner on the Teaching of Creative Writing, Hanover, University Press of New England, 1988. Ed. Edward Connery Lathem.

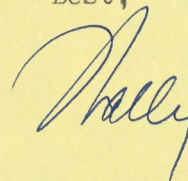
"Haunted by Waters," in Norman Maclean, edd. Ron McFarland and Hugh Nichols, Lewiston, Idaho, Confluence Press, 1988.

I'm sorry I don't know the exact titles and/or dates of some of these. I never saw them, and have no way of looking them up, barring a trip to the library, which I avoid because there is no parking there.

From what I hear from Jim Hepworth, these items are too late for the bibliography anyway. Save them for the second edition. Ha.

I hope 1989 is the year you come out from under your Burden.

Best,



13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
June 24, 1990

Dear Nancy,

Just a line in great haste before some people descend on us for a drink, to say how sorry we are that you're having to look forard, dimly I suppose since you're looking at all, to a cataract^{ed} operaton. You're too young for that. Stop that proofreading.

As I guess you've already done. The word I have from Hepworth is up-beat, though as always a little behind schedule. Some day when he gets his pieces all in place he will go through a project like this like the grace of God through a Church of Christ Sunday School. He deserves better financial support, and maybe some time will find it. I look forward to seeing your joint effort sometime before we come back from Vermont, which will be around the middle of October.

I suppose Jim has told you that the Paris Review has finally decided to print the interview they bought from him several years ago. I have just worn out my old eyes updating the damned thing--I think the initial interview was a good ten years ago. Patched a little, it runs all right.

The Utah trip that you both threatened to come to and then chickened out at the price tag, as I would have too, was actually very pleasant, though strenuous. I had a hip go blooey on me about a month ago, and by the time we got to Salt Lake the Indocin and other pills they gave me for the hip had gnawed my stomach away and given me a good hot ulcer. So I came back in a basket, more or less, and have been sipping milk and taking de-acidifiers ever since. I will live. One thing we saw in Salt Lake was the first 15 minutes of Steve Fisher's film, which seemed to us, quite good, with only a couple of misrepresentations. Those can be fixed, since all he had to show was a preliminary tape. Maybe it will make the screen just about the time your bibliography does.

We leave for Vermont on July 11. Take care of yourself this summer, and treat your eyes well. Fortunately, friends who have gone through that tell me that it is nothing like as unpleasant as it used to be, and that it is almost always miraculously successful. You will take one look at me on my cane and say, "My God, did I work ~~for~~ seven years for that?"

regret it

Whether you ~~say~~ or not, I'm grateful.

*Yours
Nally*

13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
Dec. 9, 1990

Dear Nancy,

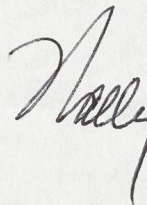
As it happens, Mary Santa Claus bought me a copier for Christmas, and after I set it up, well in advance, I needed to try it out. The first copies through the machine were the lists of things (not guaranteed complete) that I have published since 1988. I haven't seen the Paris Review interview that Jim Hepworth had in PR, and so I'm not sure what month it came out. You, with your research facilities, can easily find out.

In addition to these, there is a little squib essay, with a photograph, coming in Life next February; and I have just written the introduction to a Stanford Centennial book to be published next summer by the Alumni Association. Further than this, dependent sayeth not.

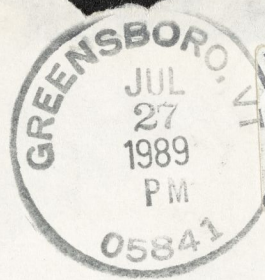
We enjoyed the party for your book, we like the look of your book, we are glad that you're selling out the first edition, we hope you have a happy holiday season, and we hate to see you starting into the bibliography business again. Take it easy. You're a librarian and a mother and a bookstore operator. Enough is enough, already.

Merry Christmas.

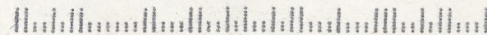
Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nancy", written in dark ink.

Wallace Stegner
Route 1 Box 1220
Greensboro, Vermont 05841



Nancy Colberg
7583 South Xanthia Court
Englewood, CO 80112



Route 1 Box 1220
Greensboro, VT 05841
July 27, 1989

Dear Nancy,

That is wonderful news about the bibliography. Do I detect a note of astonished exultation in your letter? Are you in danger of falling in love with Jim Hepworth? God bless him, anyway, he does his best with limited resources. (Which reminds me of a gravestone in the cemetery at Hardwick, the next town from here. On one side it says SOPHIA BYERS: SHE ALWAYS DID HER BEST. On the other side it says, HENRY BYERS. HE DIDN'T.) In this case you both did, and I'm happy for you, and not entirely unhappy for myself and Jim, that it seems to be coming toward a conclusion.

With all this sudden good news, and haste, I don't want to hold you up, and so I've gone through the chronology this morning, to warm up my finger. I have these following corrections:

Item 3: 1914-1920.

Item 7: Move "As a graduate student he began teaching courses" up to the end, after "University of Iowa." I started teaching as soon as I started graduate work, and I didn't teach any ~~classes in my graduate work~~ more classes, as a graduate student, until after I finished my degree. 1932.

Item 10: "returned to Iowa in February 1934 to work etc."

Item 11: Move the first sentence, "Married...Sept. 1, 1934" to a place following "Received his first " etc., ~~Change the sentence to read: "He married her in 1934."~~ and move the last sentence, "Accepted...(1934-1937)" to follow the "Married" sentence. Change "a one-year stint" to a "one-semester stint." Make a separate item, dated 1935, for the sentence "Completed ...An Appraisal."

Item 12: Move third sentence, "Achieved national success" to a position between the sentences "He and his wife" and "Began teaching." The book won the Little Brown Prize before we left Utah, and was published almost exactly at the time we started teaching at Wisconsin.

Item 14: Joined Breadloaf staff 1938, not 1939.

From here on, I can't count items. But 1955: This is Dinosaur, should indicate that I was the editor, not the author, of that book.

1962--Served as member, etc. Should be 1962-66.

1981--American Places (with Page Stegner and Eliot Porter).

Other than those small details, it seems to me fine. Send it to Jim with full confidence. And have a good time proof-reading. Our best to Don in his new avatar.

Love, *Nancy*

Chronology

- 1909 Born February 18, 1909, at Lake Mills, Iowa, son of George H. and Hilda (Paulson) Stegner.
- 1910-15⁴ Family moved frequently--in Iowa, North Dakota, and Washington State.
- 1915-20⁴ Lived in East End, Saskatchewan, a tiny village on remote plains. Attended grammar school.
- 1920-21 Fifteen months in Great Falls, Montana.
- 1921 Moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, where the family lived in a dozen houses over the next ten years. Attended junior high and high school.
- 1927 Graduated from high school and entered the University of Utah at age sixteen. Was encouraged to write by his freshman English teacher, the novelist Vardis Fisher.
- 1930 Received a B.A. from the University of Utah and began graduate work in English literature at the University of Iowa.
- 1932 Completed his master's thesis, which consisted of several short stories, and received an M.A. from the University of Iowa.
- 1932-33 Began doctoral work at the University of California at Berkeley.
- 1933 Left Berkeley because of his mother's illness. After her death that year he returned to Iowa to work on his doctorate at the University of Iowa. As a graduate student he began teaching courses. *in February 1934*
- 1934 Married a fellow graduate student, Mary Stuart Page, September 1, 1934. Received his first full-time teaching position at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois (a one year stint). *Semester*
- 1935 Completed requirements for the Ph.D. in English with a dissertation on the Utah naturalist Clarence Dutton (later published as Clarence Dutton: An Appraisal). Accepted a teaching position at the University of Utah (1934-37).
- 1937 He and his wife became the parents of a son, Stuart Page, their only child. Began teaching at the University of Wisconsin (1937-39).

Achieved national success as a writer when Remembering Laughter was published after winning the \$2500. Little, Brown novelette prize.

- 1938 The Potter's House
- 1939 ¹⁹³⁸ Joined the staff of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, where he formed friendships with Robert Frost and Bernard DeVoto. Began teaching in the writing program at Harvard (1939-45).
- 1940 On a Darkling Plain
- 1941 Fire and Ice
- 1942 Mormon Country
- 1943 The Big Rock Candy Mountain
- 1945 Shared the Anisfield-Wolfe Award and received the Houghton Mifflin Life-in-America Award for One Nation. Appointed as Professor of English, Stanford University. Directed the eminently successful writing program at Stanford University (1945-71).
- 1947 Second Growth
- 1950 First Prize O. Henry Memorial Short Story Award for "The Blue-Winged Teal." (Also received O. Henry Awards in 1942 and 1954). Published The Preacher and the Slave and The Women on the Wall.
- 1950-51 Rockefeller fellowship to conduct seminars with writers throughout the Far East.
- 1951 The Writer in America
- 1954 Beyond the Hundredth Meridian
- 1955 This is Dinosaur (ed)
- 1956 The City of the Living
- 1960 Wrote the famous "Wilderness Letter."
- 1961 Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior. Published A Shooting Star.
- 1962 — ^{1966?} Served as a member of the National Parks Advisory Board. Wolf Willow published.

1964	<u>The Gathering of Zion</u>
1967	<u>All the Little Live Things</u>
1969	<u>The Sound of Mountain Water</u>
1971	Retired from Stanford as Jackson E. Reynolds Professor of Humanities. Published <u>Angle of Repose</u> .
1972	Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for <u>Angle of Repose</u> .
1974	<u>The Uneasy Chair</u>
1975	<u>The Letters of Bernard DeVoto</u>
1976	<u>The Spectator Bird</u>
1977	National Book Award for Fiction for <u>The Spectator Bird</u> .
1979	<u>Recapitulation</u>
1980	First recipient of the Robert Kirsch Award for Life Achievement (<u>Los Angeles Times</u>).
1981	<u>American Places</u> <i>(with Page Stegner and Elinor Porter)</i>
1982	<u>One Way to Spell Man</u>
1987	<u>Crossing to Safety</u>
1987	<u>The American West as Living Space</u>

Route 1 Box 1220
Greensboro, VT 05841
July 27, 1989

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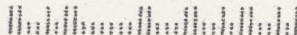
1981--American Places (with Page Stegner and Eliot Porter).

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Love, *Nancy*

W. Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112



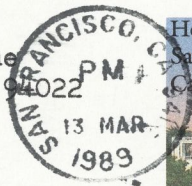
Dear Nancy,

Quick but uncertain answer to your question: We aren't yet sure of our summer plans. We too have a summer wedding--our granddaughter's--and we're not sure when we'll get to Vermont. Perhaps not until quite late. If we're not here, of course you can use the house for a few days. If we are, I'm afraid we won't have room. We're going on a short trip to Morocco next week, and will be back by mid-April. Write us sometime between then and June 1 and we should be able to tell you.

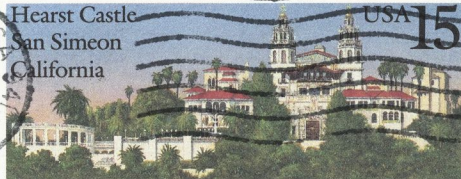
Glad to hear the bibliography proceeds. I am doing my best to make it out of date before it's published. Best to Don.

*Yours
Hally*

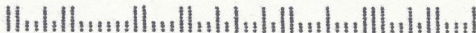
Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022



Hearst Castle
San Simeon
California



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Court
Englewood, CO 80112



Dear Nancy:

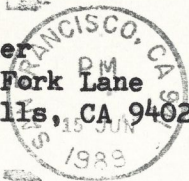
I'm glad you made the ABA, even in D.C. You do get around.

On your query about our being in, I have to be negative. We're heading for Vermont on July 6, to be gone until late September or early October. And I can't tell you to stay in our house when you're down this way because our Granddaughter Rachael and her new husband will be in it. I'm sorry--I hoped we could finagle that.

If you want to mail the books to me in Greensboro (we have a route and box number, but I forget it, so send them General Delivery), I'll be happy to sign them and ship them back. Have a fine summer. And let us hope the bibliography moves along.

Best,
Tracy

Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022



Settling of Oklahoma

15
USA

Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112

First Land Run, 1889
Territory Established, 1890
Cherokee Strip Run, 1893



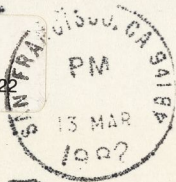
Dear Mrs. Colberg:

I'm about to take off on a lecture trip, but I want to get this into the mail before I go. It is only to tell you that we plan to go to Italy in May, and though we aren't yet sure of the departure date, which may well be after the week May 8-15, it could be during that week. I don't want to mess up your vacation plans, but if you come before May 8 you'll be sure to find us in, and if you come after May 8 you may find us gone. In any case, assuming the worst scenario, there may be other dates when you'll be getting back this way, and if all else fails there is always the dependable U.S. Mails.

Sincerely,

Walter Steiner

Wallace Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, California 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 South Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Feb. 2, 1963

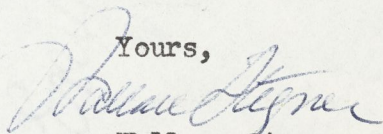
Mr. Robert Perkins
Rocky Mountain News
Denver, Colorado

Dear Mr. Perkins:

This note is slow in getting off to you, but it is doubly-felt now, since you have added a Rocky Mountain News column to your flattering Saturday Review notice. It is generally my luck to be reviewed twice, or even thrice, by people who think I stink; to be reviewed twice by someone who likes my book is just short of overwhelming.

For all of which I wish to say thanks. I hope the book is as good as you are kind enough to think it.

Yours,



Wallace Stegner

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Feb. 28, 1983

Dear Nancy,

Of course we'll be glad to see you and Don when you visit the Bay Area in March. It happens that March is frantic with lectures and little obligations and memorial meetings and other time-killers, but if you're going to be here the best part of a week there'll be no problem. Give me a call when you arrive, and we can find a time that's mutually agreeable.

You appall me with your word that you have 80 Stegner items. You've been wasting your substance, I'm afraid.---though if you keep on buying things you're bound to force up the market, and improve your capital investment.

It will be good to see you. Bring a buffalo hide and we'll make a winter count of your collection.

Yours,

Wallace

WALLACE STEGNER

13456 SOUTH FORK LANE

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, Colorado 80122

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Jan. 5, 1982

Dear Nancy,

I am slow to thank you for the lovely Colorado picture book, partly because of Christmas but mostly because I mislaid your note and your address, and only found it this morning. The book is superb, and makes us very envious of our grandson, who went off to Aspen skiing just as Colorado got smothered in snow, and I guess sat for a couple of days in the Denver airport. He came home with a heavy cold, and stars in his eyes. Not even blizzards and the common cold could dim Aspen for him. It was thoughtful of you to send us that pleasant gift, and even more thoughtful of you to have it signed for us by the author/photographer. Please give him my thanks if you see him, and tell him how magical we find many of his pictures. Most of the time I don't much mind getting old, but when I see country like that, even in photographs, I do, I do.

I hope family will bring you to the Peninsula again this year. If you do come, please give us a call and come out. We'll probably be in Italy during late April and up to late May, but the rest of the time we're here.

Our best wishes for 1983. It looks a little grim from here, but maybe virtue will triumph yet.

Yours,

Wallace Stegner
Wallace Stegner

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

March 4, 1982

Dear Mrs. Colberg:

Many thanks for your good warm letter. I'm glad you're out there, reading and collecting Stegner!

Of course I'll be glad to sign any books you bring from Colorado. I can't guarantee to be in town when you arrive — I'm in and out — but let me know when you're coming and I'll either be here or make some arrangement for signing the books and getting them back to you.

If I am going to be in town, call me at (415) 948-5348, and I'll tell you how to find my hideout.

Cordially,

Wallace Stegner

WALLACE STEGNER
13456 SOUTH FORK LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022

Sept. 13, 1982

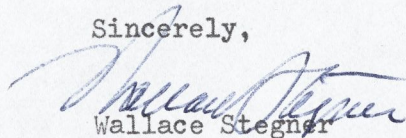
Dear Nancy Colberg,

I have been looking for a spare copy of the Robinson book, for I was sure I had several. But I find only one, and if it's out of print I'd better hang onto that. You might write Forrest Robinson at Crown College, University of California, Santa Cruz, 85060, and see if by chance he has a spare.

Nebraska's new BEYOND THE HUNDREDTH MERIDIAN must be close to out, for I got copies of the paperback last week, and among them the text of the special edition, with its special introduction. But it was bound only in paper, so I assume that the binding, or perhaps the printing of the Holmes panoramas as a dust jacket, must be holding it up. I signed tip-in sheets months ago.

Of course send any books you want me to sign, and of course come by, with or without books to sign, if you come this way. As for my next book, I can't even promise you it's a book, much less tell you when it will be published. My guess is that there are six or eight more months of writing left in it. How does 1984 grab you?

Sincerely,



Wallace Stegner

WALLACE STEGNER

13456 SOUTH FORK LANE

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112



OCTOBER IS
STAMP COLLECTING
MONTH

WALLACE STEGNER

13456 SOUTH FORK LANE

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, Colorado 80112

Greensboro, Vermont 05841
September 26, 1982

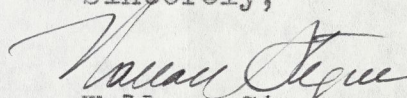
Dear Nancy Colberg,

I'm sorry to hear that the Robinson book is out of print. Maybe when I get home I can make a thorough search of the warren where I work, and find one of the copies I thought I had.

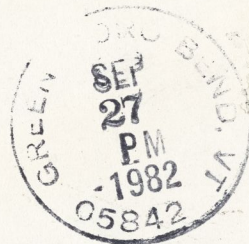
As to the manuscript page of A SHOOTING STAR: Don't buy it, not for \$278 and not for \$269.50. It may be authentic, but I don't remember ever copying out a page in longhand and signing it, and there is rarely a time when I write in longhand except when I'm on the road. I wrote part of A SHOOTING STAR while motoring down through the Dordogne, in France, and part of it in Aosta, in Italy; and I revised and retyped it while motoring back through France a year later, spending whole afternoons out in the weedy backyards of country inns, typing on a portable, on a portable table. It could be that some page of that erratic procedure might have survived somewhere, but when and why did I sign it? It is more likely, if the thing is authentic at all, that I did it for some promotion or for some fan or collector. But look at its teeth before you buy.

Sorry, I have no pictures up here in the woods. Maybe next time you come to California I can find something. We'll be at home, and receiving, after October 15.

Sincerely,


Wallace Stegner

Wallace Stegner
Greensboro, Vt. 05841



Nancy Colberg
Edwin A. Bemis Public Library
6014 South Datura
Littleton, Colorado 80120

Dear Nancy:

Coraggio, your book will be out yet!

Try Rex London, 232 Whitclem Dr., Palo Alto and Joseph Houghteling, somewhere on Bay Street, San Francisco, and T.H. Watkins, The Wilderness Society, 1400 Eye St. NW, Washington D.C. 20005, and somebody named Kurtz, whose address I will find in a minute, in Santa Barbara. (I don't find it, but if you can get his address from Sylvia or from that bookseller Schmitt in Los Altos, he's pretty sure-fire.)

As you may observe, I have imploded.

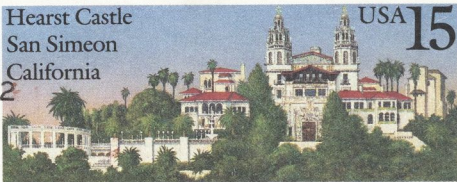
Peace.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Nancy', written in dark ink.

Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Hearst Castle
San Simeon
California

USA 15



Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112

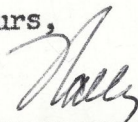


Dear Nancy,

If you 're at school, and reading, your eye operation must have gone well. I hope so. This is the summer that gave me a real disinclination for the medical profession and its line of business. I suppose that after I get through this fall's obligations I will probably be checking in for a new hip, which may brighten my outlook some.

We await the bibliography with an interest that may not be as redhot as yours, but is by no means cool. May it please you.

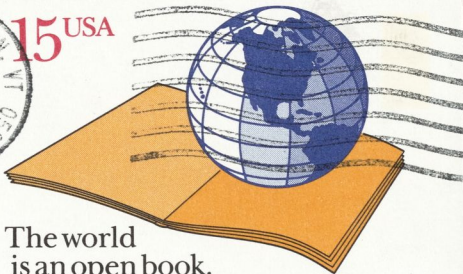
Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Harry", written in dark ink.

Stegner
Rt 1, Box 1220
Greensboro, VT 05841

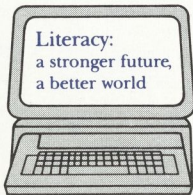


15 USA



The world
is an open book.

Nancy Colberg
7583 S. Xanthia Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112



Stegner
13456 South Fork Lane
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022



Nancy Colberg
7583 South Xanthia Court
Englewood, CO 80112

